



The Comptroller General
of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20548

Decision

Matter of: T-L-C Systems

File: B-230086

Date: February 26, 1988

DIGEST

Protest against award by firm that did not submit a bid is dismissed as protester is not an interested party entitled to protest under the General Accounting Office's Bid Protest Regulations.

DECISION

T-L-C Systems protests the award of a contract to Edgar Electric for installation of a fire alarm system under invitation for bids (IFB) No. DAAG60-87-B-8287, issued by the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York.

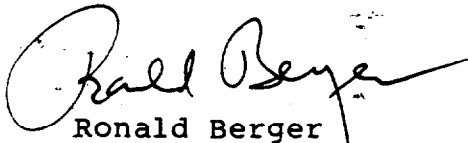
The IFB was issued on August 26, 1987, nine bids were received, and award was made to Edgar Electric Co. The Army reports that T-L-C did not submit a bid in response to the IFB. T-L-C's only interest in the procurement is, according to the agency, that of a potential supplier of certain equipment to Edgar Electric.

Our Office generally will only review protests that are filed by a party that meets the definition of an interested party. See A&K Earth Movers, Inc., B-226631, Apr. 28, 1987, 87-1 CPD ¶ 446. An interested party is defined by the Competition in Contracting Act of 1984 (CICA), 31 U.S.C. § 3551(a) (Supp. III 1985), as an "actual or prospective bidder or offeror whose direct economic interest would be affected by the award of the contract." This statutory definition of an "interested party" is reflected in the language of our Bid Protest Regulations, which implement the CICA. See 52 Fed. Reg. 46445, Dec. 8, 1987, to be codified at 4 C.F.R. § 21.0(a).

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Since T-L-C did not bid, it is not an interested party and does not qualify as a protester under our regulations.

The protest is dismissed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ronald Berger".

Ronald Berger
Deputy Associate
General Counsel